

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the action of the levers on the projections involves a first outside and a second inside bearing point so that the projections transmit a lever force in such a manner as to deform the part. The bearing points are recited as being spaced apart along a transverse direction of the projection, said transverse direction being defined as extending between an end of the part to be deformed and a free end of the projection.

This lever action is illustrated in Figure 1 with bearing points A1 and B1 for projection 11 and bearing points A2 and B2 for projection 12 to deform the main part by a lever effect, namely applying moment type forces – see p. 3, l. 24-29 of the description.

In the Official Action, the Examiner has rejected the claims as being anticipated by CARRE (US 6 715 892). In CARRE, there is no lever effort on the projections 5, 6, 7, 8.

Rather, jackscrews 11, 12, 13 and 14 allow changing the curvature of contours 2 and 4, but a jackscrew has only a single internal bearing point on the respective projection.

Jackscrews 16 and 18 in CARRE have external bearing points that are not spaced apart from the bearing points of jackscrews 11 and 14 along a transverse direction of a projection as recited in the claim, but that are facing the bearing points of jackscrews 11 and 14. The purpose of jackscrews 16 and 18 is not to curve either main surface 2 or 4, but to adjust the angle α between the hinged reference contours 2 and 4, the curvature of which having been independently adjusted by means of jackscrews 11, 12, 13 and 14 (see col. 4, l. 36-57). Thus, jackscrews 16 and 18 cannot be considered as cooperating with jackscrews 11 and 14 to vary the curvature of reference contours 2 or 4.

Also the center of jackscrews 11 cannot be considered as a bearing point as claimed, since the bearing points are recited as being spaced apart along the transverse direction of the projection.

With the claimed structure, which provides two levers to be associated with each of the two projections of the part, the main portion 10 of the part P is curved by moment type forces that are transmitted to the two ends of the part. The advantage is that, although a mirror is

Appl. No.: 10/537,655
Amdt. dated October 24, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 29, 2007

generally brittle, it enables transmitting large forces by achieving good control over pressures at the points where said forces are applied.

It is not seen where in the CARRE Patent, the Examiner has found the subject-matter of claims 2 and 3 (ball centered by spring blades).

For the reasons noted, it is submitted that the claims of record patentably distinguish over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favourable reconsideration by the Examiner and formal notification of the allowance of all claims as now presented are earnestly solicited.

It is not believed that extensions of time of fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond O. Linker, Jr.
Registration No. 26,419

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON October 24, 2007.

LEGAL02/30566085v1